

On the Go Newsletter

August 2010

ICLA Chair's Corner: A Note from Sandra Sanchez

'Heartland' is More Than Geography

In the spring of 1991, I relocated from Mexico to Des Moines. Almost 20 years later, I'm still here. What makes Iowa a great place for Latinos to build a new home and start a new life is not the weather, particularly not during the winter, and it isn't abundant, good-paying jobs. Actually, many Latinos in Iowa earn a living by taking backbreaking jobs, either in the construction, meatpacking, or service industries, although there are plenty of highly skilled professionals as well.

Iowa is a great place for Latinos because we have so much in common with the people of Iowa: enduring and strong family values; commitment to our spiritual growth; respect and consideration for our elders; a strong work ethic; respect for nature; and a sense of community. These things matter to Latinos as much as they matter to any Iowan.

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Community Announcements & Services

- [Governor Culver Outlines Education Goals](#)
- [Branstad takes new tough stance on immigration](#)
- [IowaCASA has launched their new website.](#)
- [Effects of Puerto Rico Birth Certificates Invalidation on USCIS Benefit Seekers](#)
- [Extension of Work Authorization for TPS or DED Recipients](#)
- [Appeals court upholds illegal immigrant's ID theft conviction](#)

News

- [Immigration Memo May Be a Break For Immigrants](#)
- [The United States-Mexico Border Health Commission \(BHC\) Annual Accomplishments for 2009](#)
- [Dreams Deferred and Dreams Denied](#)

Iowa Commission on Latino Affairs Nominations for Mary Campos and Robert Ray Awards

Many individuals have made significant contributions to improve the quality of life of the Latino community either at the local, regional, or state level. To help recognize these leaders and the contributions made to and by Latinos in the state of Iowa, the Iowa Commission on Latino Affairs would like to present two awards at the 12th Annual Strengthening and Valuing Latina/o Communities in Iowa Conference (aka the Iowa Latino Conference) on October 16, 2010: the Robert D. Ray Iowa Latino Ambassador Award and the Mary Campos Award.

The contributions made by a nominee for the Robert D. Ray Iowa Latino Ambassador Award and the Mary Campos Award must be either at the local, regional, or state level for a duration of at least seven years if related to their work or at least five years if the work has been done outside the job description, in one of the following areas: education (Head Start to higher learning), health care, legislative or systemic change(s) having a positive effect in the lives of Latinos (including Latino immigrants, civic participation, citizenship, etc.), Latino cultural retention/promotion, neighborhood improvement, community organizing, youth development and youth leadership, empowerment of women, Latino immigrant integration, and economic development.

Nomination Form:

To nominate an outstanding Iowan who has improved the lives of the Latino community for either of the two awards, please fill out the [nomination form](#). All entries must be typed and submitted electronically by **Friday, August 20, 2010**. Any person or group may submit a nomination.

Questions:

If you have any questions, contact Melissa Esquivel, Executive Officer of Latino Affairs at (515)281-4080 or melissa.esquivel@iowa.gov.

Upcoming Community Events

- Child Abuse Prevention Training, August 19, 9AM-noon
- Celebrating Diversity Among Young Children: Best Practices for Early Childhood & Primary Classrooms, August 21, 8:30AM-4:15PM
- Back to School Bash, August 22, 2PM
- IowaCASA's "Court: Advocates Dos and Dont's" Training, August 25, 10AM-4PM
- Entrenamiento de la Prevención de Abuso Sexual de Niños, Agosto 25, 5:30-8PM
- Latino Heritage Festival, September 4-5
- 2010 Protecting Our Children Conference, September 8-10
- Iowa Culture and Language Conference, November 1-3
- Different Colors of Violence Conference XI, December 9-10

Other August Newsletters

- Iowa Immigration Education Coalition
- Iowa Arts News
- New Iowan Newsletter

Mexican Consulate in Sioux City, Iowa

The Consulate of Mexico is pleased to inform a Mobile Consulate will be held on Saturday, August 28th, 2010 at Sioux City, IA from 8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. hosted by "Mary J. Treglia Community House" located in 900 Jennings Street, Sioux City, IA 51105.

The purpose of this Mobile Consulate is to benefit the Mexican community living the area of Sioux City to obtain only their Mexican Passports and Consular ID. In addition, this consular representation will inform about their services and activities. This service is for Mexicans who live in the **Iowa and Nebraska States. IT IS NECESSARY** to make an appointment through **MEXITEL** where all requirements are provided.

1-877-MEXITEL

(1-877-639-4835)

The service is in **Spanish and toll-free**. You do not need a credit card, a charge in the phone bill or to pay in advance to get an appointment.

YOU CAN MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT BY **WEDNESDAY AUGUST 11TH**
FROM 8:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

For information in Spanish, click [here](#).

Friends of Iowa Civil Rights, Inc. Calls for Nominations

The Friends of Iowa Civil Rights, Inc. is now accepting applications for its Annual Friends of Iowa Civil Rights Award. Awards will be given to individuals or organizations that have made a significant contribution in promoting civil rights in Iowa during the past one to two years in each of the following categories: individual, business, non-profit/community organizations, and youth/young adult. Friends will host its fourteenth annual awards ceremony this fall to recognize those champions of civil rights.

Friends of Iowa Civil Rights, Inc. is a private, nonprofit organization established to educate individuals and groups on civil rights, assist civil rights efforts statewide, and recognize individuals and groups who have championed the cause of civil rights.

The deadline for nominations is August 27, 2010. Nomination forms are available from the following website: <http://www.iowafriends.org> by clicking on the nomination form.

Two RFA's Available Through Criminal Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP)

Iowa's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council and its Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee announce the availability of two requests for applications (RFA). One RFA relates to an Iowa Disproportionate Minority Resource Center Initiative. The other RFA relates to a Cultural Competency Training Initiative.

An "Applicants' Conference" to discuss the RFA's will take place **August 27, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m.** via the state ICN network. A variety of regional ICN sites will be reserved by CJJP. Persons interested in securing a specific local ICN site should contact CJJP by noon August 16, 2010 (reservation of specific ICN sites is limited to availability) – please email Julie Rinker-Lind (Julie.Rinker@iowa.gov) at CJJP accordingly. All ICN sites for the August 27th Applicants' Conference will be posted on CJJP's website August 20, 2010. **Final proposals are due to CJJP September 30, 2010 by 4:30 p.m. CDT.**

For information on the RFA's visit the [CJJP Website](#).

ICE Launches On-Line Detainee Locator System

ICE recently launched an Online Detainee Locator System (ODLS) – a public, Internet-based tool designed to assist family members, attorneys and other interested parties in locating detained aliens in ICE custody.

The exact ODLS webpage is: <https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do>.

Please Note that this tool will track IP addresses (which all web servers track).

Resources

- [Polk County Flooding FAQ](#)
- [BeThere.Iowa.gov – A Parenting Website](#)

Conyers, Nadler Introduce Legislation to End Racial Profiling

(Washington D.C.) — Today, House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.) and Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties Chairman Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) introduced H.R. 5748, End Racial Profiling Act of 2010 (ERPA). This critical legislation will eliminate law enforcement practices of singling out people for heightened scrutiny, based on their race, ethnicity, religion, or national origin. As a product of years of extensive consultation with both the law enforcement and civil rights communities, this legislation represents the most comprehensive federal commitment to healing the rift caused by racial profiling and restoring public confidence in the criminal justice system at-large.

"The debate over racial profiling has become a central element in a much larger history of adversarial relationships between the police and communities of color," Conyers said. "Over the past two decades, the tensions between police and minority communities have grown as allegations of racial profiling by law enforcement agents, sometimes supported by data collection efforts, have increased in number and frequency. The recent passage of Arizona's new immigration law has crystallized the terms of the profiling debate and demonstrates that the combination of racial discrimination and law enforcement represents a volatile mix across all strata of the minority community. In 2001, we achieved a bipartisan consensus with the Bush administration in support of profiling legislation and hope that we can rebuild that momentum in support of this long overdue federal action."

For complete reading of article, click [here](#).

Continuation of 'Heartland' is More Than Geography

The expressions of these values might vary slightly from nationality to nationality due to cultural traditions, yet those variations are precisely what make the blending of Iowans and Latinos so interesting, intellectually enriching and spiritually endearing. Both Iowans and Latinos value the quality of life we enjoy here; one has a true chance to grow personally and professionally.

Lately, the debate on immigration issues has sparked some inflaming comments about Latinos and helped me realize how much disinformation there is around these issues. People seem to equate Latinos with illegal immigrants, and that is wrong. And some Iowans may have been surprised by recent news that this state's Latino population is still growing - up 5 percent to 134,402 in the 12 months ending July 1, 2009, compared to a year earlier - despite a tough job market and stepped-up enforcement of immigration laws.

Here are some other facts from the Pew Hispanic Center:

- Sixty-three percent of Latinos in Iowa are U.S.-born and 37 percent are foreign-born.
- Among foreign-born Latinos in Iowa, over a third are naturalized U.S. citizens.
- Among native-born Latinos in Iowa, only 39 percent are married, but 62 percent of the foreign-born are married.
- Forty-nine percent of all Latinos in Iowa are homeowners.

The American Friends Service Committee's Immigrants Voice Program provides legal immigration assistance to Latino immigrants (as well as people from throughout the world) while supporting their efforts to become fully integrated members of their new communities. It's our contribution to help Iowa adjust to these demographic changes.

Iowans value the fact that we are a country of laws, and so do Latinos. Otherwise, we couldn't live at peace, and peace is what most of us - Latinos or native Iowans - are looking for. Latino immigrants relocate to Iowa fleeing from civil unrest in their home countries or extreme poverty, both factors conducive to violence and harsh living conditions. But many also relocate seeking a better education and the opportunity to raise or reunite their family.

We ought to recognize that our current immigration system is broken and has forced some Latino immigrants to break a law they would rather not violate. Their strong family values and commitment to provide for their families trumped their respect for an almost unworkable law. Do I condone it? No. Do I understand it? Absolutely. Can you?

Native or foreign-born, Latinos are here to stay. We are people with a big heart. The term "heartland" has a different meaning than just a geographic location in the center of the country. For me it means this: a place of a people with a big heart. Instead of demonizing Latinos, please, welcome us home.

Sandra Sanchez is director of the American Friends Service Committee's Immigrants Voice Program in Des Moines and acting chairwoman of the Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs. Contact: ssanchez@afsc.org.

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Iowa Office of Latino Affairs: On the Go newsletter is sent monthly with up-to-date information on the agency, activities and upcoming events to keep our constituents informed. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

The Office of Latino Affairs is legislatively mandated to promote and advocate for Iowa Latinos.

Iowa's Latino Heritage Festival Moves to a New Location

Due to the heavy rains and recent flooding issues throughout Iowa, organizers were forced to find a new location for the festival. The event will move from the scheduled location, Des Moines Water Works Park to SOUTHRIDGE MALL, on Army Post Road, and East 14th Street. The event is scheduled for Labor Day Weekend, Saturday September 4th and Sunday September 5th, 2010

The Festival attracts thousands of people from all over the Midwest. Organizers plan to have the same wonderful entertainment, over 100 exhibitors, great children's activities, the Charros, Cultural Booths, cooking demonstrations by Chef Tania, art exhibit, bands on stage all day, along with the spectacular food, and the energy the Festival is known for.

Please check our website for current updates.

www.latinoheritagefestival.org



Iowa Global Connect

Iowa Global Connect is Iowa's centralized multilingual access point for individuals and entities to the international resources Iowa has

available and provide existent international organizations and entities with enhanced access to those who are served by their mission. Global Connect accomplishes this mission through a systematic collaborative network accessed through a state-wide written resource guide, published through the Des Moines Business Record and a dynamic, searchable web service with a live call-in center envisioned in the near future.

ICIU is pleased to announce the launch of the 2009 multicultural resource guide. Printed in eight languages, the International Guide to Iowa is intended to connect newcomers to the resources they need to make a smooth transition, thus embodying the aim of Global Connect. Iowa's first multilingual international guide will be distributed across the state this week, providing a valuable resource to global visitors and immigrants looking to live, work and raise a family in the state. In addition to basic emergency services and general needs, the 46-page guide includes information regarding employment opportunities, educational services and medical services. There will also be an electronic version, which has the potential to be translated into 49 different languages.

[Click here to enjoy the International Guide to Iowa!](#)

New Website Coming Soon !

Rodrigo y Gabriela Play Des Moines October 3, 7 PM at Hoyt Sherman Place

The acclaimed guitar duo of Rodrigo y Gabriela has enthralled audiences around the world with their unbridled dynamic energy, built around the stunning interplay of Rodrigo's dazzling lead work and Gabriela's unique rhythm play. From their native Mexico City to the streets of Dublin to their status as an international touring attraction, the stunning duo has displayed a musical union whose mutual understanding goes beyond the intuitive and into the realms of Zen: rhythmic Ying to melodic Yang.



In 2010, the duo reached new heights and audiences across the United States with performances on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno", "Lopez Tonight", "The Today Show", and even within the White House when they shared the stage with Beyonce as the musical guests for The President's State Dinner with The President of Mexico. In April, Rodrigo y Gabriela reached another milestone with a sold out performance at Radio City Music Hall.

To date, Rodrigo y Gabriela have sold over 1,000,000 albums worldwide and become a fixture on the world music circuit. Their willingness to explore musical expression, to embrace new sounds irrespective of fashion or trends; and a point blank refusal to be pigeon-holed as any particular genre, is the very foundation of Rodrigo y Gabriela and leaves us with the feeling that we have only begun to see what these two are capable of.

For more information about Rodrigo y Gabriela, visit: <http://www.rodgab.com/>.

Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com, the Hoyt Sherman box office, all TicketMaster locations, or by calling 800-745-3000.

12th
Iowa Latino Conference
Strengthening and Valuing Latino/a Communities in Iowa

Friday, October 15, 2010 **Saturday, October 16, 2010**

Latino Youth Leadership Development Summit
Iowa Memorial Union, The University of Iowa

Annual Statewide Latino Conference
West High School, Iowa City

Latino Institute for Professional Development
University Capital Centre, The University of Iowa

October 15 & 16

¡Celebremos!
An Evening of Latino Performance Arts
Second Floor Ballroom Iowa Memorial Union

2010 Iowa City Latinos in Movement!
Through Activism, Education and the Arts
www.iowalatinconference.org

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact Kate Kemp in advance at 319-335-1254.